

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the final Office Action dated May 7, 2009. Claims 1 to 5 and 7 are in the application, with Claim 1 being independent. Claims 1 and 3-5 have been amended herein to define still more clearly what Applicants regard as their invention. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 to 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious from U.S. Patent 6,369,316 (Plessing) in view of U.S. Patent 6,149,757 (Chikaki), and also as being obvious from *Plessing* in view of U.S. Patent 6,041,840 (Ogawa). Claim 5 was rejected under Section 103(a) as being obvious from the same art as Claim 1 further in view of U.S. Patent 6,127,622 (Yamada), and Claim 7, as being obvious from the same art as Claim 1 further in view of U.S. Patent 4,426,633 (Taylor). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

It is believed that it is unnecessary to repeat in full the discussions made in previous papers of the aspect of the invention to which Claim 1 is directed, and of the prior art. Applicants note that Claim 1 has been reworded to clarify that the pressure is applied using a diaphragm, and states, among other notable features, that the diaphragm is directly cooled by cooling means after carrying out the body.

None of *Plessing*, *Chikaki*, *Yamada*, *Taylor* and *Ogawa*, even if combined as proposed in the Office Action (and even assuming, *arguendo*, that such combinations would actually be made by a person of merely ordinary skill), is seen to disclose or suggest at least the above feature.

The Office Action notes correctly that *Plessing* does not explicitly disclose cooling means that cool pressing means, nor pressing means provided opposite to the mounting board, but cites *Chikaki*, or in the alternative *Ogawa*, for these features.

Chikaki provides a heating stage that can include a water cooled pipe in order to effect accurate control of the heating temperature. See col. 4, lines 46 to 48. However, nothing has been found in *Chikaki* that is seen to teach or suggest a diaphragm that is directly cooled by cooling means after carrying out the body, as is recited in Claim 1.

Similarly, *Ogawa* relates to an apparatus in which a material is cooled by circulating and supplying a coolant, such as water, to the flowing path provided in the upper platen of the apparatus. See col. 11, lines 19 to 23. As with *Chikaki*, however, nothing has been found in *Ogawa* that is seen to teach or suggest a diaphragm that is directly cooled by cooling means after carrying out the body.

Even if *Chikaki* and *Plessing*, or *Ogawa* and *Plessing*, are combined, therefore, the result would not meet the terms of Claim 1. accordingly, Claim 1 is believed to be in condition for allowance.

Yamada and *Taylor* have been reviewed, and are not seen to remedy the foregoing deficiencies of the art discussed above.

The dependent claims are also submitted to be patentable because they set forth additional aspects of the present invention and are dependent from the independent claim discussed above. Therefore, separate and individual reconsideration of each dependent claim is respectfully requested.

The application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicants' attorney of record may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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